NEWS from GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION

WARM SPRINGS, GA.

For Immediate Release

Warm Springs, Ga.....

Dr. Edward C. Keller, Jr., geneticist and Assistant Professor of Zoology at the University of Maryland was named "Alumnus of the Year" at Founder's Day ceremonies held November 22, 1965, at Warm Springs, Ga. The ceremonies marked the 38th anniversary of the founding of the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation hospital by the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Keller, who contracted poliomyelitis in October 1951 while working as an apprentice plumber in Bloomsburg, Pa., was cited by Robert L. Bennett, M.D., Executive Director, for his outstanding achievements in spite of severe physical impairment.

The Maryland professor was admitted to the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation hospital in 1951 for treatment of severe paralysis of his legs, trunk and left arm. His care at Warm Springs was sponsored by the Columbia, Pa., chapter of the March of Dimes.

In addition to medical treatment, physical and occupational therapy, he was given extensive testing by the hospital's clinical psychologist, Grace M. Freymann. Evaluation of these tests indicated a markedly superior intellect and measured interests of a scientific nature.

The hospital immediately contacted the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Education and Welfare regarding Mr. Keller's potential and urged that they assist him to obtain further scholastic training.

The Pennsylvania plumber who left Warm Springs walking with the aid of leg braces and crutches was awarded a scholarship to the Pennsylvania State University where he graduated in the upper tenth of his class, receiving a B.Sc. degree.

During his undergradutate years the Warm Springs alumnus had worked as a

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laboratory assistant in genetics and upon graduation accepted a graduate assistantship in genetics working under Dr. D.F. Mitchell. He was also awarded a predoctoral fellowship by the National Institutes of Health.

In 1959 Keller received his M.Sc. degree and was appointed Research Assistant in Genetics at Pennsylvania State University receiving two more grants from the National Institutes of Health to support the research in which he was then engaged. He had continued to make an excellent recovery from the after-effects of polio and was now able to walk without the use of braces and crutches.

The confidence of Warm Springs physicians and other staff members in their former patient's potential was justified when, in 1960, Edward C. Keller, Jr., was awarded his Ph.D. degree in Genetics and accepted the position as Research Associate in Biochemistry at the University of North Carolina. He was also awarded a post-doctoral research fellowship by the National Institutes of Health for the purpose of studying at the University of North Carolina Medical School.

Before accepting his present position as Assistant Professor of Zoology at the University of Maryland where he teaches Biostatistics and Advanced Genetics, Dr. Keller was engaged by the North American Aviation Corp. to work on the biological reclamation of waste water and the lysogenic bacteria biosatellite program which are a part of the United States space program.

Dr. Keller is married to the former Helen E. Baylor and has two children. He is the author of numerous scientific papers and is a member of the Maryland Water Resources Research Center.